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MEETINGS.

CENTRAL TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF MONTREAL.

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Meets in the Ville-Marie Hall, 1623 Notre Dame street, the first and third Thursdays of the month. Communications to be addressed to O. FONTAINE, Corresponding Secretary, 391 Amherst street.

RIVER FRONT ASSEMBLY,
No. 7023.
Rooms K, of L. Hall, Chaboulliez square. Next meeting Sunday, Feb. 21, at 2.30. Address all correspondence to
J. WARREN, Rec. Sec.,
29 Basia Street.

DOMINION ASSEMBLY,
No. 2436 K. of L.
Meets every Friday evening at eight o'clock in the K. of L. Hall, Chaboulliez square. Address all communications to
H. J. BRINDLE, R.S.,
No. 11 St. Monique street.

PROGRESS ASSEMBLY,
No. 3852, K. of L.
Meets every First and Third Tuesday at Lomas' Hall, Point St. Charles.

BLACK DIAMOND ASSEMBLY
1711, K. of L.
Meets next Sunday, in the K. of L. Hall, Chaboulliez square, at 2 o'clock.
Address all communications to
WM. ROBERTSON,
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QUEBEC NOTES.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

QUEBEC, 17th Feb., 1892.

The municipal elections are over, and organized labor scores a defeat, the nominee of the Quebec Trades Council, George Gale, failing to secure a majority of votes. This is particularly unfortunate, as Gale has always been foremost in the van when there was any work to do and never shirked his duty. But we must be philosophic. In our present City Council we have six members of the K. of L., and although Gale has been defeated, Wm. H. Walsh, one of the Dominion T. and L. Congress delegates and representative of L. A., 10061 has been elected. He will no doubt be able to give a good account of himself and be a credit to the division he represents, as well as to the old L. A. which he belongs, and which, by the way, enjoys the well-earned reputation of being the most progressive of any of the labor bodies in this city. Still the right-minded members of labor unions in this city cannot but view with regret the result of the contest and pathetically refer to "what might have been." I have no hesitation in saying that if Walsh and Gale had but joined forces both would have been returned by a good majority instead of only one, whose efforts in the Council may possibly be neutralized by the other candidate returned for the division, and who is deservedly unpopular, but who profiting by the differences existing between the above-mentioned two, secured his reelection without scarcely an effort.

This is, I believe, sufficient for Montcalm ward. In St. Roch's ward another councillor has been elected despite the best efforts of every good and true man worthy the name. He is a boot and shoe manufacturer and one of those who in the last strike sought to deprive loyal British subjects of one of their liberties, i. e., the right to unite for mutual protection and benefit. He owes his election to the shopkeepers and factory owners of the division, and will no doubt be a thorough representative of commercialism to the detriment of all other interests. The whiskey interests will be well represented, the President of the Licensed Victuallers' Association having been returned for St. Peter's ward. This ward has now the very questionable honor of being represented in the Council by two whiskey sellers.

The Trades Council held its regular meeting last night, Feb. 16, and a good deal of business was put through. The President, George Gale, forwarded his resignation, which was accepted, and a unanimous vote of thanks adopted and ordered to be transmitted to him. The gist of the resolution expressed the regret of the members at his withdrawal, and recognized the energy and ability with which he had always worked on behalf of organized labor as well as of the Trades and Labor Council, and expressed the hope that he would soon again be welcomed to the ranks where there always is a place for such as he. Both the mover and seconder of this resolution spoke in high terms of the past services rendered, and of the many battles fought in the interest of the labor cause by the retiring president, Geo. Gale.

The real fun in the Trades Council only began when the question of labor candidates was again brought up, when, for probably the first time in my experience I heard the representatives of the different labor bodies say just what they meant. The arguments were true; none seemed desirous of shelving the real issue, which actually means independent labor representation. There were many of the delegates present who placed party issues before the labor cause, and they defended their position with the same old story, the same old argument: "Labor unions have no business to meddle with politics; it brings them into disrepute; causes dissensions amongst the members, and of course should not be tolerated, as having a demoralizing tendency." It is indeed a pity that there was not a stenographer present to reproduce the arguments and answers alike. It was certainly pretty plainly shown that our present political system was without a doubt disreputable; that so far as dissensions were concerned they could boast of a very fair share, and for the demoralizing tendency, it was pointed out that the present parties were probably at present engaged in an effort to elevate the social standard by first distributing gratuitously quite a quantity of bad whiskey; and second, the intellectual standard by standing forth on the hustings or public platforms and maligning, villifying, slandering and disparaging their neighbors. I will leave your readers to draw your own conclusions from the above very much condensed report.

It was, however, definitely decided to support the candidature of Delphis Marsan as an independent labor candidate for the electoral division of St. Sauveur. He accepted, and no doubt the division will be worked up at office. Delegate Reynolds is in the field for Quebec West, so the electors in these divisions will not lack choice, as it is almost sure that in both divisions there will be Liberal, Conservative and Labor nominees to choose from.

We are at present having a surfeit of elections, the municipal elections, the Provincial elections, and last, but by no means least, the bye-election in Quebec West for

the Federal. John Hearn is the ministerial candidate and Thos. McGreevy is going to run again on his own hook. The Liberals have not as yet chosen a candidate, so that at present there is but two in the field, with chances about equally divided. Public opinion looks upon the late representative as a much abused man; in fact the opinion is freely advanced that he is more sinned against than sinning. There is but little time allowed for the campaign, so that it cannot be other than short and sweet.

A large number of our working population are at present employed upon needed city improvements which the taxpayers will pay for by-and-by. When taxes are increased again by the incoming council there will be music in the air. The burden will of course fall where it usually and invariably does, upon those least able to afford it.

ATLAS.

NOTE.—Since the above was written, Thomas McGreevy has declined nomination in Quebec West.

TORONTO NOTES.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

TORONTO, February 16th, 1892.

On last Friday evening, as announced by proclamation by His Worship Mayor Fleming, a meeting was held in St. Andrew's Hall for the purpose of stimulating public interest in as well as to endorse a petition to the Provincial Legislature (now in session) praying that municipalities be allowed the option of levying taxes in such manner as to them may offer best and exempting improvements, machinery plant, etc., from taxation. The large hall was well filled with an ardent, thoughtful and intelligent audience, despite the fact that the night was bitterly cold. At the written request of the mayor who was unavoidably absent, Ald. Wm. Carlyle took the chair, and in doing so took occasion to declare that he could at least say that the present system of levying taxes was palpably unjust and ought to be amended so as to bear evenly upon all. Besides the chairman there were also on the platform Ald. G. S. Macdonald, (and who in his speech went much further than Ald. Carlyle) and Messrs. T. W. Banton, President, and F. C. Cribbin, Secretary of the T. & L. Council; D. A. Carey, D. M. W.; and R. Gloeking, Secretary of D. A. 125 K. of L.; D. J. O'Donoghue and D. Boyle. Letters of regret at unavoidable absence and sympathy with the objects sought by the meeting were read from Rev. J. Burton, Ald. Orr and Mayor Fleming.

Mr. Banton in a clear and forcible speech moved the resolution of the evening which was as follows:

"Resolved, that this meeting is of the opinion that it would be greatly in the public interest to grant to municipalities the option of relieving from taxation all buildings, machinery, crops and other products of industry, and of raising their revenue by a tax on the values of land, or the option of raising their revenue in and manner they may deem best.

"And that this meeting heartily indorses the recent action of the Executive Committee of the City Council, in conference with the local members of the Ontario Legislature, in asking legislative powers for the City of Toronto in the above direction."

Mr. A. F. Jury, as the seconder of the resolution, in the speech of the evening cited many convincing reasons why municipalities should have the power referred in the resolution. Ald. G. S. Macdonald, and Messrs. W. A. Douglas, Stewart Lyon, S. T. Wood, D. A. Carey, R. Gloeking and D. Boyle, also spoke briefly in support of the resolution, and which, on being put to the meeting, was unanimously adopted.

D. A. Carey then moved, seconded by R. Gloeking, that the following gentlemen be a deputation to wait on the Ontario Government and lay before them the foregoing resolution, viz: Ald. Wm. Carlyle, Gowanlock, Lamb, G. S. Macdonald, J. O. Orr, William Bell and P. Thompson, J. W. Bantough, William Boyle, D. E. Thomson, A. D. Watson, M. D., Stapleton Caldecott, Rev. Charles H. Shortt, Rev. J. Burton, A. F. Jury, T. W. Banton, F. C. Cribbin, Thomas Thompson, David Carey and Robert Gloeking.

"And that the gentlemen above mentioned, with the exception of those who are members of the City Council, be a deputation to wait on that body on Monday evening next, when the question will be considered."

Both motions were adopted.

D. J. O'Donoghue in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman took occasion to say that as the subject involved in the resolution was of the utmost importance to the people at large and more especially to the

working-classes, other meetings of like import would, very likely, be held from time to time in the near future, at which many others interested and who had devoted time to the study of the matter, would be heard. On the motion being carried the meeting adjourned.

The Iron-moulders' Union and their employers in Hamilton are in bitter fight—the latter being determined to obliterate the Union out of existence, while the moulders are just as determined—aye, more determined still that the Union shall continue as of old, and this resolve every square man in Canada will concur. The Hamilton correspondent of the Toronto News writing from there says:

The Crown was not ready to go on Saturday in the charge of assault preferred against the striking moulder, McBride, the police having been unable to capture the two others who are alleged to have been concerned in the affair. The Crown expected to be able to prove that a conspiracy was formed to injure non-union men, but it looks as though there were nothing in it. The accused was remanded on bail for a week.

If both sides are to be believed the fight between the moulders and the foundrymen bids fair to be a long one. The employers say that they are sure of winning, while the men are quietly confident of ultimate success. The non-union men are working without molestation, but the strikers say that the bosses will soon be tired of them, as they are spoiling work every day.

Apropos of this strike in Hamilton it may be recorded that Mr. George T. Beales, 1st Vice-President of the Canadian T. & L. Congress, and Mr. Thos. Webb, of this city, will never forget it. Both were representatives of the Builders Laborers' Union of Toronto at the recent annual Convention of International B. L. Union in Pittsburg, Pa. On their way home last week they reached Hamilton from Buffalo at an hour after midnight. The "picket" of the Hamilton strikers "spotted" them as soon as they stepped off the train and "collared" them instantly, as "scab" moulders coming to work in Hamilton. Messrs. Beales and Webb promptly denied this, and produced the convention badges in proof. Mr. Beales also produced his commission as an official organizer of the K. of L. in D. A. 125 K. of L. But the "pickets" were still incredulous and would not believe but that they were "scabs." Meanwhile a boss moulder, who was also doing "sentry go" watching for the arrival of some non-union moulders expected from the other side of the Line, and who had been "taking in the situation" as between the Union picket and Messrs. Beales and Webb, watched his opportunity and entered in conversation with the gentlemen mentioned. He firmly believed he had found his men in them and invited them to an hotel across the road from the depot to refresh. As they had to wait until 6.30 in the morning before a train left for Toronto, they decided to humor the man and accompanied him as requested. This movement confirmed the previous suspicions of the moulders pickets, and a flank movement on the hotel was determined at once. Meanwhile George and his companion were being freely given full details of how the bosses were going to fight and defeat the Moulders' Union, but the noise at the door cut the story short. Messrs. Beales and Webb came out at once and gave the pickets "a piece of their minds" and ultimately the latter began to realize that they had blundered—to say the least of it. And now the Toronto men are wondering what it was in their physique, dress or conduct that conveyed such a firm conviction in the minds of the aforesaid pickets that they were "scabs."

It is told of a well-known and able editor of a Conservative organ in a Western Ontario city, who up to the time was in favor of a policy of a moderate tariff, that on being informed that the party had determined on a High Protection Policy, and that he must advocate and support it or lose his place in the ranks of the party, studied a moment and then promptly replied "well, its a sharp angle, but I can turn it," and he did so, too.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the City Council held one day last week the Municipal Committee of the T. & L. Council was heard in support of a request that the City Council seek legislation abolishing property qualifications for Mayor or Aldermen. Their request was refused, only two of the Executive Committee supporting the proposition. At the regular meeting of the City Council last night the galleries were crowded with stalwart voters, when, as the Globe of to-day reports, Ald. Burns moved the insertion of a clause for the abolition of property qualification for members of Council and strongly urged

that the precedent set by England years ago be followed out. Ald. Leslie made an argument in which he objected strongly to the payment of aldermen, and the removal of the property qualification was a step in that direction. He would support the motion if another were passed to the effect that payment of aldermen should never be introduced. He concurred by denouncing "professional aldermen." In reply Ald. Burns fought against the idea that money makes the man, and was supported most vigorously by Ald. W. Carlyle, who pointed out that the workingmen, when they exercised their vote, did so as intelligently as any other class. The right to sit in deliberative assemblies was, he believed a birthright. Ald. McMurrich also pointed out that the labor men were just as well qualified to sit in Council as anyone now an alderman, and should not be barred out because they had only a small stake. Ald. Macdonald and Bell supported the motion, and Ald. Leslie, Foster and Maloney were the only members of Council who voted against the insertion of the clause in the city's bill. The motion was therefore declared carried. So that, evidently, quite a number of aldermen turned a sharp curve since the meeting of the executive committee a few days before.

Advices received to-day from Vancouver, B. C., contain the information that the Trades and Labor Council of that city is taking active steps respecting the Chinese curse in that province. At a largely attended public meeting—the hall was crowded to the doors—held in Vancouver on the 8th inst., it was decided to form an anti-Chinese League. On the occasion there were on the platform Ald. Franklin, Geo. Bolley, President T. and L. Council, G. Polley, C. C. Stewart, T. Moore and others prominent in the initiative of the movement, and several of whom delivered able and pointed speeches on the subject. The Vancouver Telegram of the 4th inst., in speaking of the meeting, feels constrained to say that "the number of citizens in attendance at the anti-Chinese meeting last night and the favor which was shown to the utterances of the speakers as well as the eagerness displayed at the close of the proceedings to sign the document pledging the subscribers to assist the movement, clearly indicated the feeling which prevails among the people here on this much discussed question." The speech of the evening was that of Mr. Lookley Lucas, who spoke for nearly an hour. He was a prominent figure in the agitation in Australia which resulted in the exclusion of Chinese from that country, and has given much consideration and study to the habits and customs of the kind of Chinese who leave their own country for the purpose of making their way to other lands. During his speech Mr. Lucas said that in the matter of patience Job "was not in it" with the Chinaman when the latter was bent on entrapping and destroying a white girl. He also denied the statement which, he said, Mr. O'Shaughnessy of the C. P. R., had made, that China was disposed to give the preference in trade to Canada because Australia and the United States had legislated against her people. He said that in this Chinese agitation it would be necessary to fight the C.P.R., which wanted Chinese cheap labor. He had been told that to struggle for Chinese exclusion here was impossible, as the people were too much afraid of the C. P. R. But judging from the spirit of the meeting to night he did not think this was so. He considered that a man in working for this movement could not do so honestly, and not fight the C. P. R. He referred to the C. P. R. as a grinding monopoly, which brought in voters from the outside to carry elections, and which was like a great snake stretching across the continent crushing individual effort. He also denied the statement of the premier, made in the House on Monday, that no Chinaman had been employed in the construction of the Shuswap & Okanagan railroad.

After the speeches the following resolutions were adopted, viz:

"That this meeting is in favor of the imposition of a poll tax of \$500 per head on all Chinamen or other Orientals entering British Columbia and an annual tax of \$50 per head on all those who are in British Columbia."

"That this meeting request the Dominion Government to pass a bill prohibiting the employment of Orientals in mines and placing a penalty of \$500 on each breach of the said bill. That this meeting make a similar request with regard to all Government or chartered works."

Besides this, before the meeting came to a close over 600 of those present joined the League and attached their signatures to the following document:

"We, the undersigned, desire that a poll tax of \$500 be imposed on every Chinaman entering British Columbia or Canada, and a yearly tax of \$50 on every Chinaman now in the country. And we hereby subscribe our names as members of the anti-Chinese League, and we will only vote for those men who will work against the Chinese in parliament."

Will our eastern trade bodies help their western brothers in this matter? I hope they will.

Now that "Atlas" (P. J. J.) gives a well written weekly budget from the "Ancient Capital," why is it that some one "solid in the faith" at Ottawa does not take a big sized hint and let us know what organized labor is aiming at or doing in the Federal Capital? I know several there who are fully competent to do so, providing they are not too lazy.

URM.